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THE WASHINGTON POST, FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1986

Senate Narrowly Approves Modified Contra-Aid Plan

Nicaraguans Said to Withdraw After Attack in Honduras

> By Robert J. McCartney Washington Post Foreign Service

CAPIRE, Honduras, March 27—Most of the Nicaraguan troops who entered this Honduran border area five days ago to battle anti-Sandinista rebels based here have withdrawn from the country, U.S. and Honduran officials said today.

The Honduran government, seeking to bring the recent fighting under control, has ordered the Nicaraguan rebels to stay in their camps and not pursue the retreating Sandinista forces, according to sources in the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa with access to intelligence reports. They spoke on the condition that they not be identified by name or nationality.

The Nicaraguan troops pulled back after failing to take a rebel training center about 10 miles inside Honduras that was their principal objective, according to U.S. accounts.

In Managua, the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry said its troops had "destroyed important enemy camps" along the border, although it did not say the camps were inside Honduras. Earlier, Nicaragua had denied reports of the attack on the rebel bases.

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